

by the State at large. In that event the Second District will, most probably, elect a negro judge, and how will the people of the Piedmont section feel, particularly those who are good, honest, conscientious Republicans, when his sable honor is dispensing justice from the seat once occupied by a Gaston and a Pearson?

"Colonel Dockery.—When I was a member of the Convention of 1875 I assisted in amending the Constitution so as to prevent the very evil suggested, and I am surprised that my distinguished opponent is not aware of the fact that our Superior Court Judges must be elected by the State at large.

"Judge Fowle.—My distinguished opponent commits an error in asserting that there is any such provision in the Constitution, for in section 21 of Article IV, it is provided that the General Assembly may, from time to time, provide, by law, that the judges may be chosen instead of by the voters of the whole State, by the voters of their respective districts."

Was that bad memory or was it worse? It looks very much like a "story."

*Again at Siler City.*

"Judge Fowle.—Another argument in favor of the present system of county government is that, in case of its repeal, negro county superintendents of public instruction will be elected in Halifax, Craven and other negro counties, and the young white girl teachers of Eastern North Carolina will have to be examined by them in order to obtain certificates of qualification.

"Colonel Dockery.—There is no danger of the election of negro county superintendents. My opponent cannot point to a single negro county superintendent elected under the old system.

"Judge Fowle.—The reason none was elected was because there was no such office until 1879—after the present system of county government went into operation."

And how is that for "bad memory"? How is it for a "story"? Doesn't it look like a "story" and "bad memory" very much mixed—what some people call a "durned no such of a thing"?

*This sweet little thing occurred at Reidsville:*

"Colonel Dockery.—I did study law at Judge Battle's one term, but when I found that by pursuing the law I would go to hell I left it.

"Judge Fowle.—My opponent left the law and became the most expert politician of his party. Some people may not think that he increased his chances for Heaven by going from the law to politics. But however that may be, in his magnanimity, although he himself has avoided the path which he avers leads to hell, he has, I have been informed, induced a favorite son to take that fatal road and apply for his license in October. He thinks he has saved his own bacon, but his boy may go ahead on that road."

This is perhaps the "cheekiest" of all. Dockery studied law in 1848, or thereabouts (he graduated at Chapel Hill in June, 1848), and not until 1888, if we are correctly informed, did he join the church, forty long years after he says he left the law to keep from going to hell. Does any one believe a word of it? Does he believe a word of it? If he did, would he make his son a lawyer? But Dockery is possibly a member of the church on the same schedule that he is a member of the Alliance—that he doesn't hold himself bound to follow either its precepts or its practices.

Oh, Dockery! but you are a sweet story-teller.